

FACT SHEET

NEH & Veterans

THE EXPERIENCE OF VETERANS IS A VITAL PART OF THE AMERICAN STORY,

which is why NEH began *Standing Together*, an initiative to use the humanities to support veterans as they return home and rejoin their communities. Since 2014, the program has helped thousands of veterans and promoted understanding of the military experience among all Americans. With more than \$10 million in federal funds, NEH programs for veterans help build partnerships with state humanities councils and award grants to programs working directly with veterans, their families, and communities.

VETERANS PROJECTS FUNDED BY NEH INCLUDE:

- WARRIOR-SCHOLAR PROJECT has helped prepare nearly 500 returning veterans for success in college. Veterans enter academic boot camp and receive intensive training in critical reading and other skills from esteemed university faculty on a dozen American campuses.
- **LITERATURE AND MEDICINE**, started in 1997 by the Maine Humanities Council, uses reading and discussion programs to help health-care professionals, including those in VA facilities, understand the challenges faced by their patients. Maine's Veterans Program, which has been active in 13 states, includes book groups to help veterans reflect on their experiences.
- AQUILA THEATRE brings together veterans and the public for readings, stagings, and discussions of classic works emphasizing conflict, friendship, home, and family.
- NEW ACADEMIC COURSES ABOUT EXPERIENCES OF WAR are being developed at the
 University of the Incarnate Word, East Los Angeles College, Wake Technical Community College, and LaGuardia Community College.
- NEH-supported programs raised awareness about the history of disabled veterans through public discussions and screenings of the film **DEBT OF HONOR**.
- DIALOGUES ON THE EXPERIENCE OF WAR, held in 19 states and Washington, D.C., brings together veterans and humanities texts for leader-facilitated discussions about combat and war.
- In 2014, NEH GAVE \$10,000 GRANTS TO 54 STATE HUMANITIES COUNCILS to kickstart programming for veterans, initiating book groups, public discussion series, and lecture programs that have evolved into mainstays of local humanities programming.
- A NEW KEN BURNS DOCUMENTARY, THE VIETNAM WAR, premieres in September 2017 on PBS. Public screening and discussion programs will invite millions of Americans to better understand the complex history of the Vietnam War. Classroom materials will be made available to teachers and students across the country.

The National Endowment for the Humanities was founded in 1965 as an independent federal agency charged with bringing the humanities to all Americans. NEH-supported projects in history, philosophy, archaeology, and other disciplines promote the humanities and provide Americans with the resources to be knowledgeable and informed citizens.